FC FLOWER COMICS

女王の花

Kamiyoshi Izumi

和泉かねよし

小学館
FC 3383

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雑誌 46043-83　小学館

亜国の姫として
生まれながらも
幼くして
母を毒殺された亜姫は
人質として黄の国に送られ
そこでの扱いは
奴隷と変わらなかった。
亜姫と強い絆で結ばれた
奴隷の少年・蒋星がいた。
やがて激しくも黄の国と土の国で戦が始まり
蒋星は歩兵として
最前線に!!
亜姫は自ら兵を率い、
蒋星を助けるために
闘おうとするが…!?

和泉かねよしが
描く
渾身の歴史ロマン
第二巻!!

ベツコミ
フラワーコミックス

二

Joou no Hana 2

Izumi Kaneyoshi

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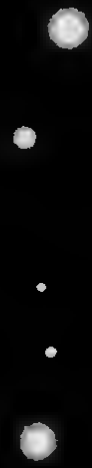
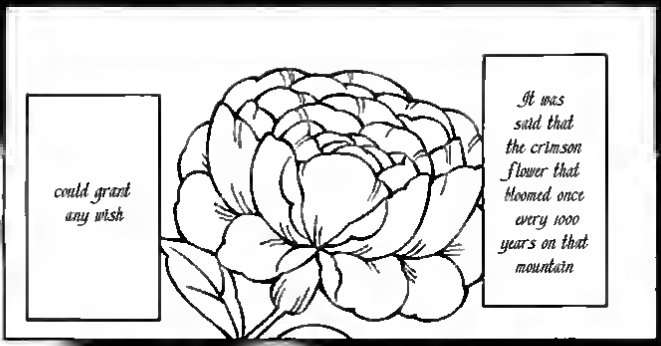
Even in the face of death,
the memories float up.
I just wanted to give you a flower.



HAKUSEI.
I'LL GO TO THE BATTLEFIELD FIRST.
YOU MAY BE ABLE TO GET STRONGER IF YOU DO.
FOLLOW IF YOU WANT TO.
I SHALL GO.

SFX: FLAP
HAKUSEI, WAIT!
I'M THE ONE WHO PROMISED KING KOU TO GO TO THE BATTLEFIELD! WHY ARE YOU LEAVING ME AND GOING ALONE?!
PRINCESS IS MY GENERAL.
THE GENERAL HAS TO MAKE A GRAND ENTRANCE AT THE VERY END.
UNTIL THEN, I'LL DEFEAT ALL THE ENEMIES SO PLEASE REMAIN IN THE FORTRESS, PRINCESS.

I want to hand you a flower, not a sword.
Even if it's a flower stained with my blood



'The 1000 Year Flower' 'The 1000 Year Flower'

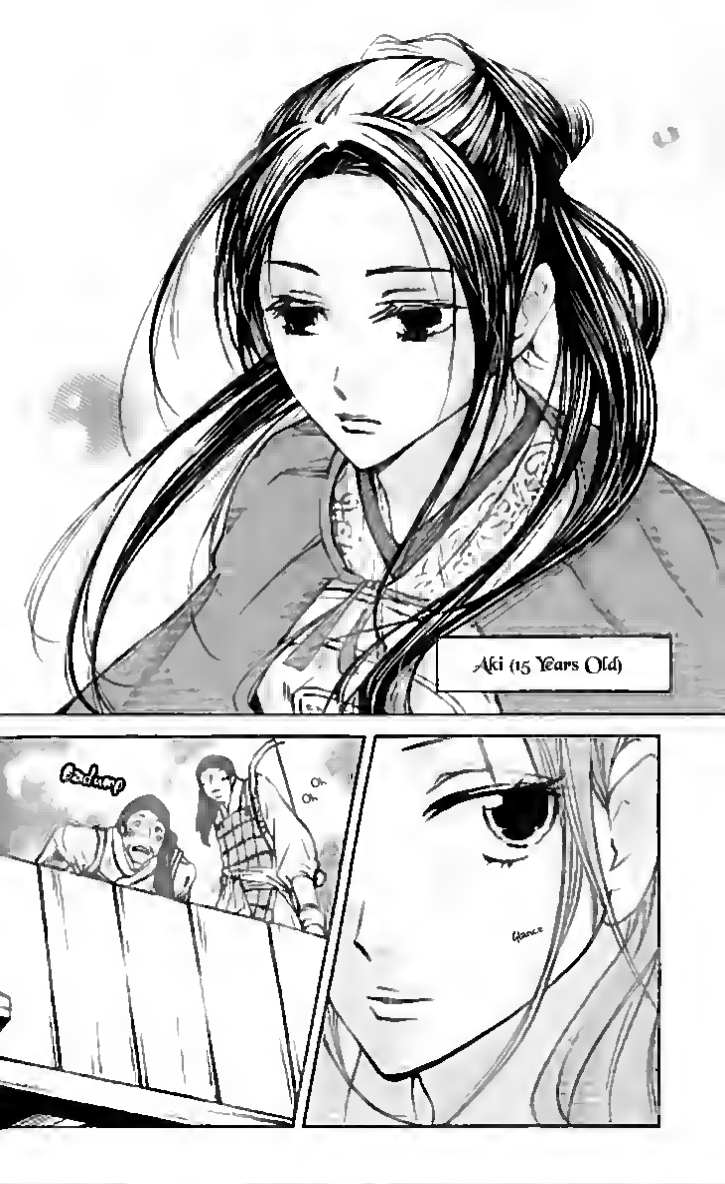
THE 1000 YEAR FLOWER!

IT GRANTED MINE!
OF COURSE!
IF YOU SAY THAT, WILL IT REALLY GRANT YOUR WISH?
SFX: PIROPO
COM-PLETE-LY?
COMPLETELY, COMPLETELY, COMPLETELY?
COM-PLETELY, COM-PLETELY
REALLY!
This foreign boy's wish

was to
live with
this girl.

And
this girl's
wish—...

Tweet
Tweet
WHAT?
HUH?
OI.
Kou's Army -
Front Stronghold
AND THE ONE WITH THE AH BANNER IS-
SEIITSU-SAMA HAS RETURNED.
SOME-ONE'S COMING
GALLOP
GALLOP


Aki (15 Years Old)
Factory
Oh
Uuuu

IS THIS THE KOU ARMY?
IT'S IMPRES-SIVE
SFX WAAAAAH
WELL THE INFANTRY...
YES...
You've well learned the basics
IS THIS ARRANGEMENT DESIGNED FOR DEFENSE AND NOT OFFENSE?
CAVALRY TO THE OUTSIDE
WAR CHARIOTS ON THE INSIDE.

HA-
Zoom
AKI-SAMA!
SE-
KU-
I!
Thud

HAKUSE!!
I CAME!
DID YOU MISS ME WHILE WE WERE APART?
WE'RE TOGETHER AGAIN FROM NOW ON!
ARE YOU IN PAIN? HURT? DID ANYTHING BIG HAPPEN?
PRINCESS
NOTHING BIG HAPPENED... BUT IT FEELS LIKE MY STOMACH WILL COLLAPSE FROM YOU SITTING ON IT.
...

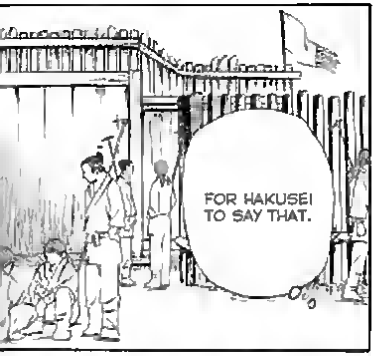
DO YOU KNOW HOW WORRIED I WAS THAT YOU'D GET IN TROUBLE AFTER ENTERING THE IMPERIAL ARMY?
I THOUGHT YOU'D BE SO GRATEFUL AND COME RUNNING SAYING, 'WAH, PRINCESS, I MISSED YOU~,' BUT—!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
HAKUSEI!

YES?
HUH?
Hakusei
was this...
AH. MY APOLOGIES. A PEBBLE FELL INTO THE BACK JUST NOW

...
PRIN-
CESS?
WHOA!
SFX. FWOOSH
PRIN-
CESS...
Wobble
Wobble
I'M GOING TO BECOME EVEN BIGGER.
BE-
CAUSE
I'M A
BARBA-
RIAN.
Probably

The small Hakusei who
once fell into a well because his feet were so small
THEY SAY MANY OF THEM HAVE BIG STATURES
somehow
WHY DID YOU COME HERE?
WHAT..

I...
DIDN'T WISH FOR YOU TO COME.


FOR HAKUSEI TO SAY THAT.

Plod Plod Plod
IT'S A GIRL!
WITH AN EXPRESSION THAT LOOKS LIKE HE GREW UP ALL ALONE, WHEN IN FACT WE GREW UP TOGETHER...

Pacing

Chirp

A PRETTY ONE!
OH HO!
HUH?
UM! ARE YOU A MAIDEN FROM A VILLAGE NEARBY? COME HERE. I'LL SPOIL YOU.
Uha
SEE HERE, LEAVE HER BE. SHE'S STILL A CHILD.
And beyond that from a better household
THAT CHILD IS UNDER MY CARE.
OI.
Jerk
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?! SHE HAS A DECENT BODY!
LET GO..

SHE'S EXPENSIVE...
Merchant from Ah ~ Seiretsu
WHAT, SO IT WAS LIKE THAT? YOU WERE SELLING YOUR BODY?
HOW MUCH?
THAT'S RIGHT... I'LL GIVE HER TO YOU FOR CHEAP.
REALLY?
OK .. I'LL TAKE HER!
IF YOU PAY IN ADVANCE I'LL GIVE YOU A DISCOUNT.

SWOOSH
FUSHU

THE COST IS THAT INCONSEQUENTIAL NECK OF YOURS.
ISN'T THAT CHEAP?
AND—
IT'S NOT A GOOD TREND.
YOUR DISCI-PLINE HAS CRUMBL-ED
WHAT A RELIEF! I'M SO HAPPY WE MET. I...
SEITETSU!
GOLLOPES
Shunk
Fwi

WHAT DID YOU COME TO THE BATTLEFIELD FOR?
YOU AND HAKUSEI, WHY ARE YOU BOTH TREATING A PERSON LIKE A HINDRANCE...
YOU ARE A HIND-RANCE.

Sou
Kou
Ah
Do
N
W
E
S
THIS WAR CONSISTS OF
A 100,000 DO SOLDIERS AGAINST ONLY 50,000 FROM KOU.
DOESN'T THAT MEAN YOU NEED ANY HELP YOU CAN GET, NO MATTER HOW INSIGNIFICANT?
Hmph
I MAY NOT LOOK LIKE MUCH, BUT I AM AH'S PRINCESS
I MADE AN OATH TO HIS MAJESTY KING KOU
THAT I WOULD SURELY BE OF ASSIS-TANCE.
AKI-SAMA!
I BELIEVE THAT THESE HANDS HAVE VALUE.

IT CAUSES TROUBLE IF YOU TRAVEL WITHOUT A GUARD
SEIITSU
Huh—?
SO YOU WERE HERE, TOO. THAT TURNED OUT NICELY! COME TO THE MILITARY CONFERENCE.
PARDON?
Ah, Aki-sama, please stay here I'll send a guard later
UM.
WHAT ABOUT ME? IS IT OK FOR ME TO NOT GO TO THE MILITARY CONFERENCE?
I want to go, too!
IMPROPER?
THAT IS TO SAY—
HOW SHOULD I PUT IT
NO, THAT'S

So you're saying
that I'm that useless...
PLEASE DON'T MISUNDERSTAND... THIS MAN IS ACTING AS MY ADJUTANT* ON THE MILITARY CAMP FORMATION...
AH!

* AN ASSISTANT OR SENIOR OFFICER

AHAH~ AKI-SAMA HAS BEEN ACQUAINTED WITH THIS MAN SINCE SHE WAS LIVING IN AH, HASN'T SHE.
WITH THIS PUNK.
WHY DOES ONLY SEITETSU...
SEIITSU, SEITETSU! WITH YOUR SIMILAR NAMES, WHAT EXACTLY IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP?
I TRUST SEITETSU.
...

THERE'S NO USE IN ASKING SEITETSU.
OH, YOU'RE RECEIVING SUCH PRAISE.
...
Thump
THOUGH HE HAS CUNNING ULTERIOR MOTIVES, HE'S A RETICENT BLACK-HEARTED MAN.
smile
NO MATTER HOW MUCH SHE PESTERED YOU, YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE BROUGHT THIS CHILD HERE.
SEITSU-SAMA.
BUT SEITETSU IS THE ONE WHO TAUGHT ME WAR TACTICS FROM A YOUNG AGE!
THOUGH SHE HAS SELF-PROCLAIMED 'VALUE,'
HE'S WELL AWARE OF WHETHER I'LL BE OF ASSISTANCE OR NOT ON THE BATTLEFIELD.

VALUE IS SOMETHING OTHERS ASSESS.
Clench
NO, BUT...
LET'S GO, SEIITSU-SAMA.
SFX: WHOOSH
I ONLY BROUGHT HAKUSEI BECAUSE I CAME TO THAT CONCLUSION.
THAT'S THE ANSWER.
YOU'RE NOT NEEDED.

HUH
SO THERE ALREADY WAS A GUARD
Though Ah-sama isn't aware of it.
WHAT IS YOUR MOTIVE?
IN ANY CASE, TAUGHT HER WAR TACTICS FROM A YOUNG AGE?
Even though there is also a Prince in Ah
Are you trying to make her queen..? It can't be
What of her younger brother?

I WON'T BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE WAR IF THIS CONTINUES!
IN THE END, I WASN'T ALLOWED INTO THE MILITARY CONFERENCE OR THE BATTLE.
I HATE SEITETSU AND HAKUSEI AND EVERYONE ELSE!
SAYING THAT THERE'S NO OPPORTUNITY FOR ME TO GO OUT...
A Few Days Later
EXCUSE ME
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO SEE YOUR FACE!
ROLL
ROLL

THESE ARE MY QUARTERS
I KNOW.
BUT IT MUST BE NICE BECAUSE PEOPLE DON'T COME HERE
SCRATCH
IT'S BECAUSE I'M A BARBARIAN
OF COURSE, I DON'T GET BOTHERED, BUT
I ALSO DON'T GET APPROACHED BECAUSE MY YELLOW HAIR AND BLUE EYES ARE CONSIDERED UNLUCKY
OOPS...
HAKUSE!

I'M A MORE DESPISED CHILD THAN YOU ARE.
THINK ABOUT IT. I WAS BORN THE PRINCESS OF A COUNTRY,
BUT DUE TO THE KING'S IRE, I WAS CHASED OUT OF MY HOMELAND WITHOUT EVEN ONE LOYAL VASSAL, AND I'M TREATED LIKE A HINDRANCE WHEREVER I GO.
SWORE TO STAY BY ME
ONLY YOU...

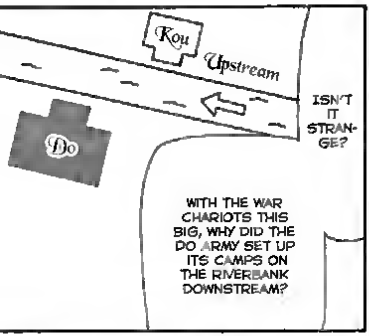
Squeez
I NEED STRENGTH.
ENOUGH STRENGTH TO BE ABLE TO RETURN TO AH
THAT'S WHY I HAVE TO DISTINGUISH MYSELF IN THIS WAR AND GET KOU TO BE ON MY SIDE.
I SHALL DO THAT.

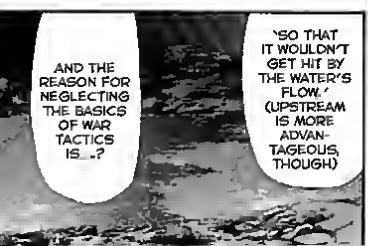
EVEN SEITETSU-SAMA SAID THAT IF JUST A FEW OF AH'S FLAGS WERE TO BE RAISED AT THE KOU ARMY CAMP, THEY WOULD BE PLENTY OF DISTRACTION TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY—
THAT IS WHY I WISHED FOR PRINCESS NOT TO ENTER THE DANGEROUS BATTLEFIELD
IT'S NOT A LIE.
LIES
BUT I
YOU'RE FAR FROM A DESPISED CHILD, AS YOU ARE LOVED BY EVERYONE
WISH FOR YOU TO HAVE ONLY ME, SO I WON'T TELL YOU THIS

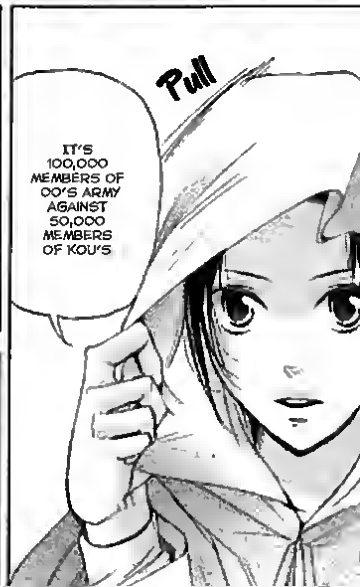
I had your hand, which can even reach for the throne
Will one day surely
I know
IF YOU LOOK CAREFULLY, YOU SEEM BRAVE, BUT YOU HAVE WEAK SPOTS, TOO
I HAVEN'T HEARD THAT REQUEST IN A LONG TIME.
TOO!
TOO!
...FLOWER
'THE 1000 YEAR FLOWER,' 'THE 1000 YEAR FLOWER'
SNIFF
THOUGH, I CAN'T FULFILL ANYTHING TOO DIFFICULT...
YOU HAVE ME. I'LL FULFILL YOUR WISH TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY.

I SAID 'NOT ANYTHING TOO DIFFICULT!'
The Do Army on the Opposite Bank Stronghold
DON'T WORRY. MY SWORDSMANSHIP IS ADEQUATE ENOUGH TO DEFEND MYSELF.
THE PRICE FOR THIS DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY IS MURDER!!!
WE'LL DIE IF WE GET CAUGHT.
HOW DID 'A WISH' SUDDENLY BECOME 'I WANT TO SEE THE ENEMY TROOPS!'

PRINCESS, YOU REALLY HAVE A LOT OF GUTS.
'THE 1000 YEAR FLOWER,' 'THE 1000 YEAR FLOWER'...
Sniff
Enough with the tears.
I JUST WANT TO VERIFY THE DO ARMY WITH MY OWN EYES. IF WE JUST SEE A LITTLE MORE...
WE CAN'T! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS WITH JUST THE TWO OF US!


Kou
Upstream
Do
ISN'T IT STRANGE?
WITH THE WAR CHARIOTS THIS BIG, WHY DID THE DO ARMY SET UP ITS CAMPS ON THE RIVERBANK DOWNSTREAM?


AND THE REASON FOR NEGLECTING THE BASICS OF WAR TACTICS IS...?
'SO THAT IT WOULDN'T GET HIT BY THE WATER'S FLOW.' (UPSTREAM IS MORE ADVANTAGEOUS, THOUGH)


Pull
IT'S 100,000 MEMBERS OF OO'S ARMY AGAINST 50,000 MEMBERS OF KOU'S

I THINK WE'LL KNOW THE ANSWER IF WE LOOK A BIT MORE...
Grind
Grind
...IS?
HAKUSEI.
Sigh
KILL ME NOW...
I DON'T WANT TO SEND YOU OUT ON THE BATTLEFIELD ALONE.
EVEN IF THE ENTIRE NATION HATES ME, I HAVE YOU
AND YOU HAVE ME.
I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO DISTINGUISH MYSELF AND HELP OUT.
WE MAY BE HATED, BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER.
Rumble
AH.
GREAT...

SPIES.
SHK

PRINCESS
WE MUST RETREAT!

SPIES!!!
CATCH THEM!
WAH
THEY'RE CHILDREN!
!
Gong
Gong

SFX SLICE
Splat

AHH HK!
DASH
AH!
RUN AWAY!
SFX SHOVE
UGH
GAH!
...
HURRY!
Uwaah
!
WOOSH

HE'S NOT A WEAK ONE! WE DON'T HAVE TO TAKE HIM ALIVE.
BOW!!! GET A BOW!

AHH—
WHAT ARE YOU DOING! RUN TO THE RIVER!

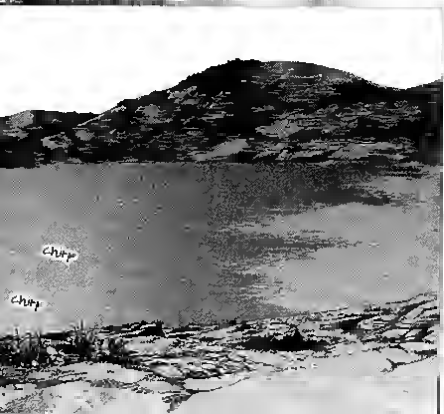
..I hate this

It's painful I feel like I'm going to faint

The water is heavy This fishy smell...

Blood

I'm scared.



COUGH/
IT'S OK NOW,
SO PLEASE BREATHE SLOWLY.
IT'S OK.
COUGH
COUGH
PLEASE RETURN TO THE PALACE.
YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE COME, AFTER ALL.
COUGH
COUGH

IF YOU WERE FRIGHTENED BY THAT LITTLE INCIDENT, THEN YOU SHOULDN'T BE GOING OUT ONTO THE BATTLEFIELD.
Turn
THAT LITTLE INCIDENT?!
THAT...
WAS JUST A LITTLE INCIDENT?!
YOU... REALLY ARE STRANGE.
YOU WEREN'T LIKE THIS BEFORE...
HOW CAN YOU KEEP SUCH A COOL FACE IN THIS SITUATION?
ALL THAT... ALL THAT SPILLED BLOOD AND YELLOW FLESH...
I'VE GOTTEN USED TO IT, PRINCESS.

THAT I FORGOT ALL THE TACTICS AND SWORDSMANSHIP I WORKED SO HARD TO LEARN.
THAT'S RIGHT, I WAS SO PITIFULLY SICK WITH TERROR
HAKUSEI!
BUT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU.
IS IT THAT GREAT TO BE ACCUSTOMED TO KILLING?!
BUT DON'T UNDERESTIMATE PEOPLE!!!
Stop!
OR,
Stop it, stop! What are you saying?
CAN BARBARIANS LIKE YOU KILL WITHOUT FEELING 'HUMAN'?

Flinch
BEFORE PRINCESS CAME HERE, THERE WERE SOME SMALL-SCALE CONFLICTS.
NO, PRINCESS.
EVEN BARBARIANS HATE WHAT THEY HATE.
THE FIRST TO DIE IN WAR IS US INFANTRYMEN.
I WAS AFRAID. I WAS SO AFRAID I COULDN'T BEAR IT.
BUT I CUT THROUGH MY ENEMIES... THERE WAS NO THOUGHT ABOUT HUMANITY.
Transcendence

I MERELY DIDN'T WANT TO DIE.
PRIN-CESS...
PRIN-CESS.
PRIN-CESS.
PRIN-CESS

I WANT TO SURVIVE AND SEE HER.
I WAS THINKING...
THAT WAS ALL

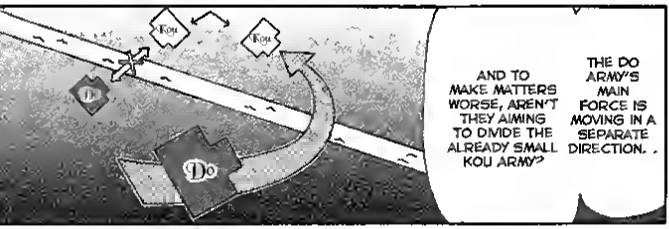
HAHAHA! BUT IF YOU HATE ME, THEN THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO.
HA!
CRACK
HOWEVER, IF I DON'T KILL THEM, I'LL BE KILLED,
AND IT'S FINE IF YOU SAY THAT YOU FEEL BAD BECAUSE YOU WERE DIRTIED WITH BLOOD.
PRINCESS, WHAT DID YOU THINK WAR WOULD BE LIKE? SAYING THAT WE'D BE TOGETHER FOREVER...
IT'S A LIE
O

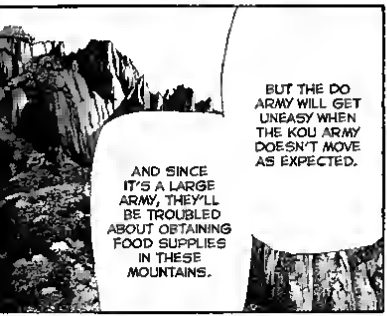
Tok
AH ..
THE PRINCESS IN THE PALACE, AND THE BARBARIAN SLAVE IN THE BATTLEFIELD/ WE ALL HAVE OUR 'POSITIONS,' DON'T WE?
NO...
PLEASE RETURN! HURRY AND GO!
No!
That's not it!
If you say that you hate me I can't live.
...IS UNREASON-ABLE...

IT TURNS OUT THAT I BROUGHT THAT PRINCESS HERE FOR NOTHING.
WHY ARE YOU SAYING THAT NOW?
WELL.
YOU KNOW, I THINK THAT PRINCESS . .
ARE THERE BEARDED MOTHERS?
Ah! I say that I like her but it doesn't mean that I want to be her first or anything!
It's more like a mother's love for her child
Don't question it! A mother's love is great. It's ok if she has a bit of a beard

I KNOW SHE MUST BE VERY IMPATIENT FOR ONE THING OR ANOTHER TO STUBBORNLY COME OUT ONTO THE BATTLEFIELD...
SHE SEEMS LIKE AN ADULT BECAUSE SHE'S HAD SO MANY STRUGGLES, BUT SHE'S MERELY FIFTEEN YEARS OLD.
Flap
AH.
You're soaking wet.
WHAT IS IT?
THE DO ARMY ON THE OPPOSITE SHORE WAS... TOO SMALL IN NUMBER.
Transcendence

IT'S A TRAP, ISN'T IT?
Drip
Drip


Kou
Kou
Do
Do
THE DO ARMY'S MAIN FORCE IS MOVING IN A SEPARATE DIRECTION.
AND TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, AREN'T THEY AIMING TO DIVIDE THE ALREADY SMALL KOU ARMY?


BUT THE DO ARMY WILL GET UNEASY WHEN THE KOU ARMY DOESN'T MOVE AS EXPECTED.
AND SINCE IT'S A LARGE ARMY, THEY'LL BE TROUBLED ABOUT OBTAINING FOOD SUPPLIES IN THESE MOUNTAINS.

THAT'S RIGHT.
THAT'S WHY WE CAN'T MOVE.

IN STILL WATER,
Nnnn

Plunk
EVEN ONE DROP CAN MAKE A RIPPLE
WHEN WE CROSSED THE RIVER, WE STARTED SCOUTING, BUT THE ENEMY CAUGHT US AND CHASED US OUT.
PRINCESS !!!
IT WAS A SMALL ORDEAL.
HOWEVER, THE TIDE OF WAR CAN CHANGE SIGNIFI-CANTLY. .
THOUGH I'M NOT OF MUCH HELP, I DON'T WANT TO JUST SIT AROUND AND DO NOTHING. SO FOR NOW, I'LL BE REPORTING
HEY.
Flap

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I DON'T KNOW.
But I don't want to be here
I...
I thought I was a better person than this

That when given the opportunity everyone will come to acknowledge my ability
That I'm simply ill-fated right now.
That one day I'll return to Ah
HA!
SO STUPID....
Aren't I an idiot?!

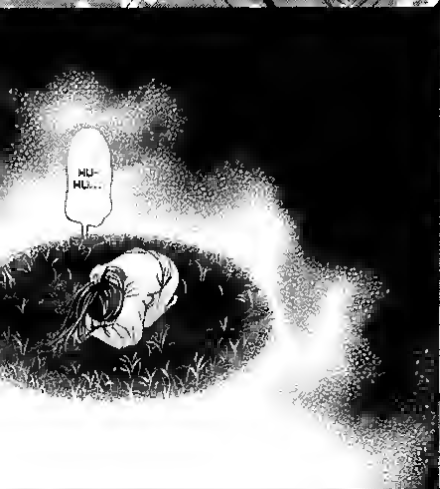
Sniff
Idiot
When I'm not even ready to dirty my hands with blood
I was impatient about distinguishing myself
In truth though I'm not even confident of even having that kind of ability
Slump

I didn't want to come out to something like war.

I was afraid

I trampled on the heart of a precious person.

But because I wanted to hide that part of me

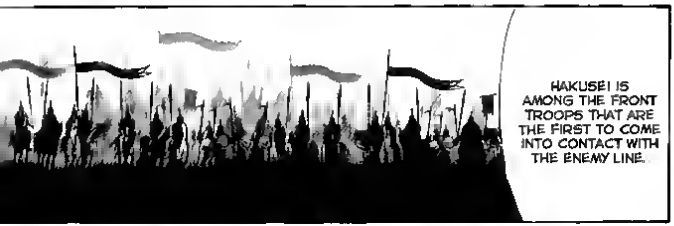


MARCH MARCH
ARCHERS, CROSSBOW-MEN, GATHER THE ARROWS.
QUICKLY!
Flap
WAKE UP. THE DO ARMY IS MOVING

I DON'T LIKE THINGS LIKE WAR.
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SAID I WASN'T NEEDED!
Waaaaah
I DON'T WANT TO!!!
slap
YOUR FEAR IS SPREADING TO THE SOLDIERS.
SILENCE.

Kou
Do
(Bait)
Do
THIS IS THE SEED YOU SPREAD.
BECAUSE OF YOUR SCOUTING AFFAIR, THE DO ARMY IS UNDER THE ILLUSION THAT THE KOU ARMY FELL FOR THE BAIT, AND THEIR MAIN FORCES HAVE EXPOSED THEMSELVES.

Rear
Middle
Front
Enemy
AH!
YOU DO KNOW THAT THE ARMY IS FORMED OF THREE PARTS: THE FRONT, MIDDLE, AND REAR TROOPS, CORRECT?


HAKUSEI IS AMONG THE FRONT TROOPS THAT ARE THE FIRST TO COME INTO CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY LINE.

GRAB
DURING THE MILITARY CONFERENCE, THE PLAN MOST LIKELY LEANT TOWARDS SACRIFICING THE FRONT LINE AND CONCENTRATING OUR EFFORTS ON THE MIDDLE AND REAR TROOPS.
PARDON?!

PEOPLE...
...VALUE THEMSELVES THE HIGHEST.
EVEN THOSE WHO ARE WORTHLESS MANAGE TO NATURALLY CONSIDER THEMSELVES TO BE REMARKABLE.
HOWEVER, THEIR HANDS ARE SMALLER THAN THEY THINK THEY ARE,
AND THE WORLD ISN'T SO YIELDING THAT YOU CAN GET SOMETHING OUT OF DOING NOTHING.
Squeeze

YOU SAY YOU "DON'T WANT TO FIGHT"...?
STOP KIDDING AROUND!
Transcendence
flap
IF YOU DON'T WANT HAKUSEI TO DIE, YOU WILL FIGHT!!!

YOU ARE LATE.
Chief of the Middle Troops
Chintou
WHO'S THAT? THAT MAN OVER THERE
WHAT, YOU DON'T KNOW...? THAT MAN IS THE ONE WHO LEFT KOU FOR SOME REASON...
MORE IMPORTANTLY, HE BROUGHT THE PRINCESS OF AH
I BROUGHT HER BECAUSE SHE MAY KNOW A BIT ABOUT THE DO ARMY'S MOVEMENTS
MY APOLOGIES.
GULP

Front
Middle
Rear
REGRETTABLY, FEMALES HAVE NO HISTORY OF STRENGTH IN OUR ARMY BEFORE!
ACCORDINGLY, THE FRONT TROOPS WILL CARRY ON PULLING IN THE ENEMY'S ADVANCE GUARD.
AND THE MIDDLE, REAR, AND RESERVE TROOPS WILL MOBILIZE TO ENCIRCLE AND DEFEAT THE ENEMY'S MAIN FORCES!
WHAT...
THERE'S NO SPACE TO SEND ANY REINFORCEMENTS TO THE FRONT TROOPS.
AH...
WAIT!
NOW THAT THAT IS ESTABLISHED...

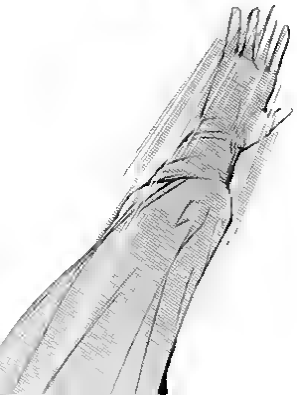
PLEASE WAIT.
WHAT DO I DO, WHAT DO I DO...
WE MUSTN'T...
OI
Why did you bring her here, after saying she's not needed in this war
Because right now, she has some use
What?
She has natural talent. If not I wouldn't have looked after her
But she often doesn't think
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING WE CAN'T DO? DON'T CARELESSLY BLURT OUT AN IMPROMPTU THOUGHT.
THINK!
AH...

IT'S STUPID TO SACRIFICE THE FRONT TROOPS.
MOREOVER, DO YOU MEAN TO THROW AWAY A PORTION OF THE MILITARY FORCE?
WE MUST ABSORB THE FRONT TROOPS WHILE ADVANCING AND FACE THE ENEMY.
IS IT REALLY LIKE THAT? I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...
I'M NOT SURE...
AM I RIGHT...?

IF MY PLAN IS WRONG,
HAKUSEI WILL DIE.
HOW CAN WE AFFORD TO DO THAT?! WE'LL BE STRUCK WHILE DOING THAT KIND OF LEISURELY THING!!!
Grrr!
I'M AFRAID.
YOU BRAT.../
THERE IS A RIVER.
clack
DRAG

WE MUST USE THE RIVER AS A BARRIER.
Fwddd
Cavalry
Middle
Front
Do
Do
FIRST, THE CAVALRY WILL JOIN THE FRONT TROOPS TO PUSH THE DO ARMY OUTSIDE THE RIVER.
THEN THE MERGED TROOPS CAN CONCENTRATE ON THE DO TROOPS INSIDE THE RIVER.
WHO WOULD FOLLOW SOMEONE SO UNCONFIDENT THAT THEIR FACE SPASMS FROM TENSION?
LET US EMPLOY THE MOBILE CAVALRY.
SMILE.
MERGED TROOPS, MIDDLE TROOPS, REAR TROOPS, AND THE RIVER. IF WE PUSH THE ENEMY FROM ALL SIDES LIKE THIS...
Grip

WE CAN WIN!



SHOULD BE THROWN INTO THAT DARKNESS.

THUMP
THAT, IS A QUEEN.
THUMP
CHARGE!

PLEASE BE ALIVE.
HAKUSEI,
RUMBLE
Kou Front Troops: Battlefield

Waaaah!
AH
SHIT... THEY'RE GETTING PUSHED BACK QUITE A BIT.
BOWED CAVALRY!
Fwish
WAIT!
AH!
THE RIGHT WING IS STILL ALIVE OVER THERE
Wah!
SWING

TS/N HAKUSEI!!! *GLOMP*

Whoosh
RIGHT WING! LAY OUT THE RANKS AND MAKE THE KOU FORMATION!
HAHA... AKI-SAMA! THAT NEWBIE IS VERY STRONG! JUST LEAVE HIM BE.
AH!
Hah.
Hah.
Hah.
CLANG
1000 Year
Pa.
The

To be with
that girl...
...forever,
at all costs.
The 1000
Year Flower.

GALLOP
AKI-SAMA!!!
LEFT WING! SPREAD OUT!
"The 1000 Year Flower."
"The 1000 Year Flower."

THUMP
THUMP
FRONT CAVALRY, CHARGE!!!
...WITH THAT GIRL.
SLICE
TO BE...

Ou...
PRINCESS?
HAKUSEI!

Waaah!
Caw
YOU SAID IT, DIDN'T YOU.
MY MOTHER PASSED AWAY,
MY FATHER TOSSED ME ASIDE, AND I LOST EVERYTHING, BUT...
UNTIL I TAKE MY LAST BREATH, YOU WILL BE IN MY GRASP...

...FOREVER, AT ALL COSTS.

I WILL NEVER LET YOU GO!
NEVER!!!

YES. .
A moment after Aki's plan aligned into an almost perfect configuration
nearly all the flags left fluttering in the wind belonged to the Kou Army
Da-boom
Da-boom
IT'S THE SIGNAL TO GATHER. WE WON!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
ONE DAY, I MIGHT DIE LIKE THAT TOO...
BUT,

RIGHT NOW I CAN ONLY...
EVEN IF YOU WERE TO SAY THAT THE STATE OF THOSE SOLDIERS' BODIES FLOATING IN THE RIVER IS TO BE THE STATE OF MINE TOMORROW,

AKI-SAMA.
AKI-SAMA!!!
On this day

GO FORWARD.

AKI-SAMA!!!
AKI-SAMA.
AKI-SAMA!
AKI-SAMA.

However
the entire land came to know of this girl's existence
Ah: Capital
this spread new seeds of dispute
Sou
Kou
Ah
Do
It seemed like a period of peace was drawing near
The Do Army which took a blow from the Eastern front withdrew from Kou and reached an armistice
IS THIS TRUE?
THE GIRL DID THAT TO THE DO ARMY?!
Ah's First Queen: Queen Do

...so short and happy that it's sad
In Kou they are faced with a coming of age that is
16 years old

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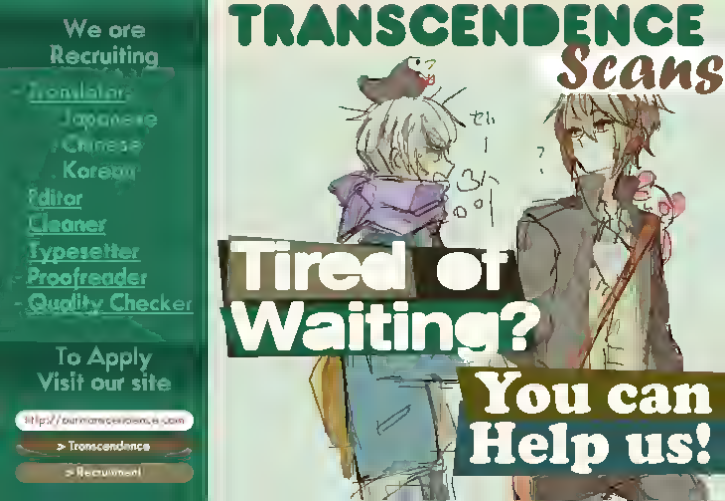
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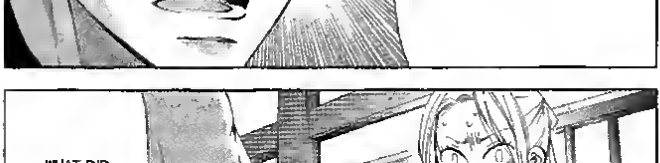
CLACK
TEN UNTIL ..
FIVE SOUTH-EAST PALACE SOLDIERS!
CLACK
AND THE INFANTRY FIVE ONWARDS AS WELL ..
AH.

*TR NOTE: HUSSARS ARE LIGHT CAVALRY ORIGINATING FROM HUNGARY

FIFTEEN SOUTH-EAST WITH THE HUSSARS*.
WITH THIS, YOUR ARMY WHOSE CAMP HAS FALLEN, HAS BEEN DESTROYED, PRINCESS
ARE YOU AN IDIOT?

!!!
Aki, 16 years old
SEI-TETSU...
CALLING ME AN IDIOT BECAUSE OF ONE MISTAKE IS TOO HARSH.
IN THIS PALACE OF KOU, I'M LEARNING ABOUT THE MILITARY FROM YOU AS A PRINCESS
YOU COULD HAVE SAID IT A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY...
AH, MY BAD.
EH...? NO.
That easily?
HM.

ARE YOU AN IDIOT, MILADY?


WHAT DID YOU EVEN LEARN AT THE ACTUAL BATTLE?

WHAT DID YOU SEE?

SLACK
SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW THAT FEAR DOESN'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO LEARN ABOUT THE MILITARY.
THAT'S WHAT IT'S LIKE STANDING ABOVE OTHERS
ONE MISTAKE OF A COMMANDANT KILLS A MILLION SOLDIERS.
BUT SOMEONE WHO CANNOT CONTROL THAT FEAR DOES NOT HAVE THE QUALIFICATIONS OF A COMMANDER EITHER.
ONCE MORE!

Queen Do
my mother's
arch-enemy
I must learn,
If I were to
attack Queen Do
in the near future
a battle might happen
with Do again
If I'm not
strong if I
don't have power
people die
Like
my mother
HAKUSEI!
DASH

CATCH ME!!!
EH?
Wait...
KYA...

Lightly
GRAB
I THINK YOU GREW AGAIN? YOU DON'T EVEN FALTER WITH SOMETHING AS HEAVY AS ME ANYMORE.
AHAHA.

I HEARD THAT YOU CAN LISTEN TO A COURSE ABOUT LAW IN THIS COUNTRY SO I'M GOING
I WILL COME WITH YOU, BUT WHAT'S GOING ON TODAY?
THAT'S A WASTE OF TIME
Heave ho
EVEN THOUGH THAT IS SO, PLEASE USE THE STAIRS!
I WANT TO SEE THE PAINTINGS ABOUT WAR STRATEGIES, READ THE TEXTBOOKS, LEARN AND. .
PRINCESS
YOU'RE EXCEL-LENT
HEY.
YOU'RE AMAZING

WHERE ARE YOU FLEEING TO?! YOU SAID YOU'D COME WITH ME!
FOR HOW MANY TIMES?! HOW CAN I FOLLOW YOU AROUND EVERY-WHERE LIKE THAT?!
THEN AT LEAST COME WITH ME TO QINLIN!
I DON'T WANT TO!

...
YOU HAVEN'T WORKED HERE FOR LONG, RIGHT? THAT SERVANT IS ALWAYS LIKE THAT SO DON'T WORRY.
Ha ha...

BICKER
THAT TEACHER ALWAYS TRIES TO RESEARCH ME SINCE HE THINKS IT'S WEIRD THAT I'M A BARBARIAN.
Why do barbarians have blue eyes? I should research!
QINLIN
IT'S NOT AS IF YOU'RE GETTING WORN OUT BECAUSE OF IT, DON'T BE SO STINGY!
I DO GET WORN OUT! MY EMOTIONAL PEACE IS CLEARLY WEARING OUT!

HM.
SO THOSE TWO ARE THE PRINCESS OF AH AND HER BARBARIAN FOLLOWER..

RUMBLE
MY! IT'S SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PLACE.
ALTHOUGH IT'S MY FIRST TIME IN KOU...
I HEARD THAT THE PRINCESS OF AH IS CURRENTLY HERE...
ABOUT THAT, BANKER SEI.
NEIGH
BUT WITH WHAT BUSINESS HAVE YOU...
THANK YOU.
Kou Banker, Seiitsu

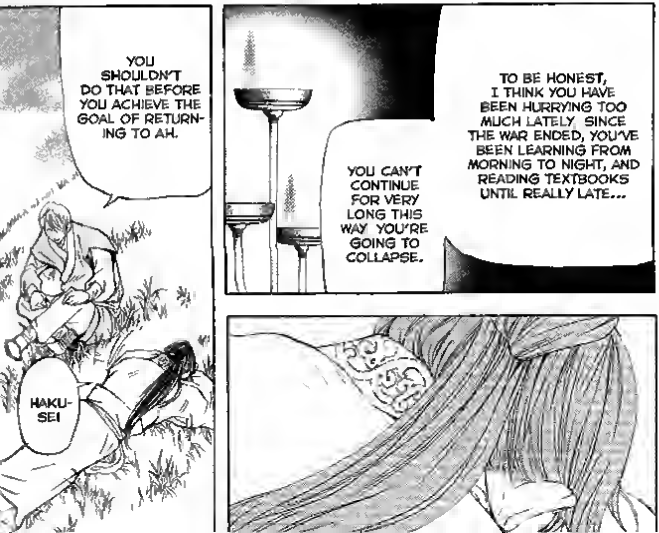
NEIGH
I DON'T CARE ANY-MORE! JUST GIVE ME THE HORSE!
I want to ride it...
You're going to ride a horse inside the palace?
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE CROW-TIT BUT THE HORSE IS SCARED AND SHUDDERING!
"HOW WOULD A CROW-TIT KNOW WHAT A STORK MEANS?!"
TN: "HOW WOULD SOMEONE SMALL LIKE YOU UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF A BIG PERSON!" IS WHAT IT MEANS
NEIGH
WHOA, DISTURBING
HOH. WOMEN OF KOU HAVE VERY STRONG SPIRITS.
YOU MEAN MISS AKI?
MISS AKI ORIGINALLY CAME TO OUR COUNTRY OF KOU AS A HOSTAGE,
YES!
Rush
...ANYWAY, BANKER SEI, ABOUT THE PRINCESS OF AH.

BUT SHE HAS GIVEN KOU VICTORY AFTER DEFEATING THE DO ARMY IN THE FORMER BATTLE.
RIGHT NOW, ALL THE PEOPLE OF KOU LOVE THAT PRINCESS. DAY BY DAY, SHE IS STARTING TO LOOK MORE LIKE THE NATION'S BEAUTY, QUEEN KOU
PRINCESS!
I'M SORRY, BUT IF YOU, A FOREIGN MESSENGER, THOUGHT YOU COULD SEE HER EASILY IT'D A PROBLEM...
PRINCESS.
...
PRINCESS! YOU HORSE THIEF!

GO AWAY! YOU DAMNED BRATS!
BASH BASH
THE OLD MAN WITH A CARNIVOROUS AURA?
ARRRRRRRRGH!
FLINCH
FLINCH
JUMP
HOLD ON TIGHT!
GALLOP
WAIT.../ HAKUSEI, THE LAW COURSE-

PRINCESS
THERE'S NO USE IN BEING SULKY.
I'M NOT GOING TO LEND YOU THE HORSE EITHER.
AND A MANTIS IS SITTING ON YOUR HEAD

Rustle Rustle
SLEEP A LITTLE.


YOU SHOULDN'T DO THAT BEFORE YOU ACHIEVE THE GOAL OF RETURNING TO AH.
HAKUSEI
YOU CAN'T CONTINUE FOR VERY LONG THIS WAY. YOU'RE GOING TO COLLAPSE.
TO BE HONEST, I THINK YOU HAVE BEEN HURRYING TOO MUCH LATELY. SINCE THE WAR ENDED, YOU'VE BEEN LEARNING FROM MORNING TO NIGHT, AND READING TEXTBOOKS UNTIL REALLY LATE...

THEN I CAN JUST ACHIEVE WHAT I WISH BEFORE I COLLAPSE.
ROLLS OVER
IF I ACHIEVE WHAT I WISH, I'M GOING TO BECOME THE FIRST-IN-LINE SUCCESSOR OF AH. I CAN BECOME QUEEN AH.
AND I'M GOING TO BRING DOWN QUEEN DO
I'M DEFINITELY RETURNING TO AH
SO HAKUSEI, I'M GOING TO...
AH IS A BOUNTIFUL COUNTRY DUE TO ITS TRADE WITH THE WEST. HANDLING GOLD AS WE WANT...

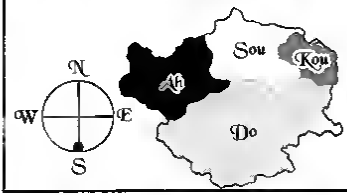
...THROW THAT AWAY.

THAT'S RIGHT BY 'WHAT I CAN REACH', I PRIMARILY MEAN HORSES.. SOME MONEY.. AND ..
I ONLY NEED WHAT I CAN REACH. I DON'T WANT ANYTHING MORE THAN THAT
THINGS SUCH AS RULING A COUNTRY OR BEING A QUEEN ARE A LITTLE DIFFICULT FOR ME TO HANDLE
HAKUSEI,
YOU
WITH EVERYTHING ELSE, TAKE ME WITH YOU

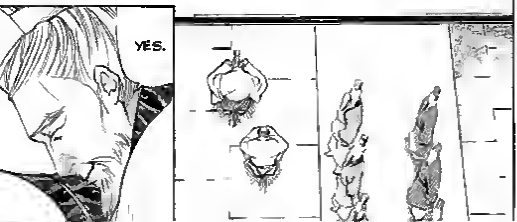
AH.
ANYWHERE, AS YOU WISH.
Princess
Princess

Rustle
I like you so much that I can't do anything.
Dash
AH!

A KID?
WAIT-/
WAIT JUST A MINUTE!
HE'S OLDER?
AH!
YOU JUST THOUGHT I WAS A KID RIGHT, BARBARIAN?! BUT I AM 17 YEARS OLD!
I can see it in your eyes!
AND I'M HERE AS A MESSENGER OF PRINCE SOU. IF YOU KILL ME, THERE WILL BE WAR! UNDERSTAND?!



The only country between the four great countries that has kept silent



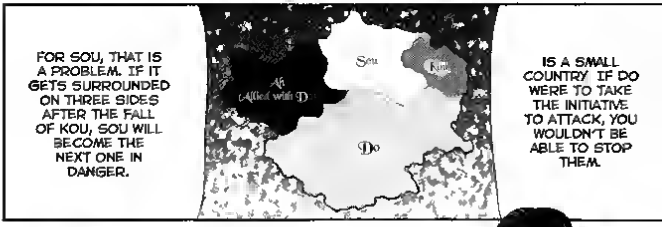
I'M HERE TO GREET MISS AKI, KING KOU'S GRAND-DAUGHTER,
AS OUR PRINCE SOU'S OFFICIAL WIFE.

THUD
YOU MISSED BEAUTIFULLY.
Clatter
Clatter
IT'S TOO MUCH...
WHY DO I HAVE TO BECOME THE WIFE OF PRINCE SOU?!

EH ? ISN'T THAT RUDE TOWARDS SOU?
Swish
I DON'T THINK IT'S SUCH BAD NEWS.
HAKU-SEI.
YES.
I THINK A WILD MONKEY HAS CRAWLED IN
Drag it out right now.
AH-!
PHRASH
PHRASH
WHAT A RUDE PRINCESS! I AM THE CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF THE PRINCE, KAITAN!
HAKU-SEI.

BAS-
TARD.
I'M SORRY, BUT KOU

SWISH


FOR SOU, THAT IS A PROBLEM. IF IT GETS SURROUNDED ON THREE SIDES AFTER THE FALL OF KOU, SOU WILL BECOME THE NEXT ONE IN DANGER.
Sou
Kou
Ah
Allied with D
Do
IS A SMALL COUNTRY IF DO WERE TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO ATTACK, YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO STOP THEM.

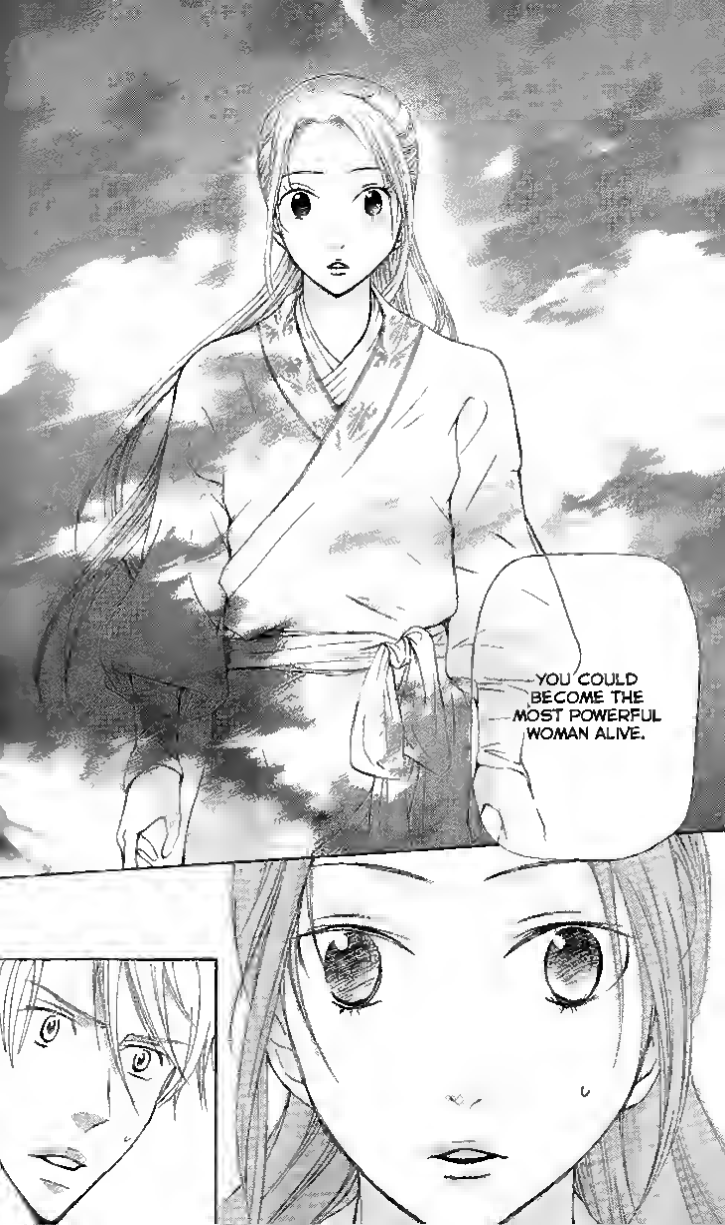
POU
POU
YES HE DOES.
EVEN SO! I HAVE MY OWN THOUGHTS! DOESN'T PRINCE SOU HAVE THOSE?!
AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT, WE'RE TRYING TO GET KING KOU'S GRAND-DAUGHTER AS OUR BRIDE!
THAT'S RIGHT!
SO, SOU WILL FORM AN ALLIANCE WITH KOU?

AN UGLY WOMAN WOULD BE A PROBLEM!

I CANNOT TRUST WHAT THE ELDERLY SAY!
A FRIEND WHO INTRODUCES WOMEN CLAIMING THAT THEY'RE PRETTY ARE IN GENERAL NOT WORTH GETTING INVOLVED WITH!
"GO TAKE A LOOK AT HER YOURSELF"... IS WHAT HE SAID, AND PUT ME IN THE GROUP OF MESSENGERS.

IS THAT SO.
The vassal is already like this but so is the master...
Should... Should I just shoot him with my arrows?
Grab

IT ISN'T A BAD IDEA.
Wait!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
King Sou
King Kou
King Ah
Queen Kou
Aki
Prince Sou
OH.
AT LEAST YOU KNOW SOMETHING
AND IF SHE WERE TO BE THE QUEEN OF SOU IN THE FUTURE,
ALTHOUGH HER STATUS AS A SUCCESSOR IS LOW, AKI IS A ROYAL WOMAN OF AH AND THE GRANDDAUGHTER OF KING KOU.
SHE'D BE A WOMAN WITH THE SUCCESSOR'S RIGHTS OF THREE COUNTRIES. IN OTHER WORDS,

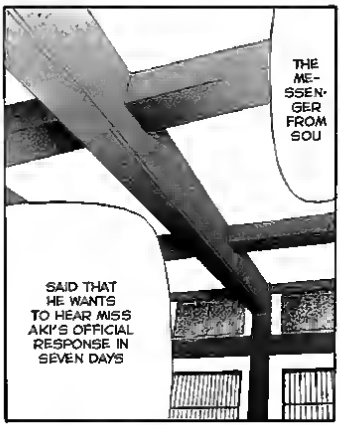

YOU COULD BECOME THE MOST POWERFUL WOMAN ALIVE.

I HAVE SOMETHING I NEED TO DO...
YOU MEAN YOUR MOTHER'S REVENGE? YOU CAN DO THINGS LIKE THAT WHENEVER YOU WANT IF YOU HAVE POWER.
Sigh
BUT
I DON'T WANT SOME-THING LIKE THAT.
Sigh
YOUR MOTHER BECAME THE QUEEN OF AH AT THE AGE OF 15.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "THINGS LIKE THAT"...?
BUT SINCE SHE DIDN'T HAVE POWER, SHE WAS DRIVEN AWAY TO THE CORNERS OF THE PALACE AND EVENTUALLY DIED AFTER DRINKING POISON.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU SCREAMED OUT JUSTICE AGAINST QUEEN DO'S CRUEL DEEDS, WAS THERE ANYBODY WHO LISTENED TO YOU?
Soldsu...

THE JUSTICE OF A WEAK PERSON BECOMES NOTHING BUT A GRUDGE.
BUT STILL...
SEI-TETSU,
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT WITH ME BEING TREATED AS A TOOL..?

AKI.

THAT'S IT!!!
LIKE THAT, ENCHANT PRINCE SOU WITH YOUR WOMANLY WEAPONS!
Grillll
BANG
YOU COLD PERSON! IT'S FINE!


THE MESSENGER FROM SOU
SAID THAT HE WANTS TO HEAR MISS AKI'S OFFICIAL RESPONSE IN SEVEN DAYS

A few days later...

IN FRONT OF KING KOU

TO STRENGTHEN THE BOND BETWEEN KOU AND SOU.
SEITETSU AS WELL... I GUESS THAT EVERYONE OF KOU THINKS THAT IT'D BE BETTER IF I GO TO SOU?

YOUR FACE TELLS ME THAT I DON'T EVEN NEED TO WAIT SEVEN DAYS.

POP
HELLO!
WHAT DID BANKER SEI SAY? IS YOUR JOURNEY TO SOU DECIDED?
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE BARBARIAN WHO ALWAYS FOLLOWS YOU TODAY?
DON'T FOLLOW ME!
HAKUSEI WENT TO SEITETSU TODAY.
HMM-. AH! MISS AKI, WHEN YOU COME TO SOU, YOU CAN BRING THAT BARBARIAN WITH YOU.
Since he's amusing and fun
HAKUSEI IS NOT A SPECTACLE!
PLEASE CALM DOWN. THE PEOPLE OF SOU ARE ALL HONEST LIKE ME SO IT'S FUN.
A country with only people like Kattan...

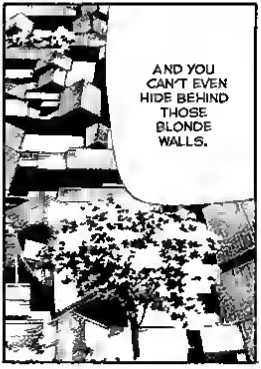
OOH
EEH
OH MY, MISS AKI!
HOW MODEST. MISS AKI ISN'T THAT BAD EITHER.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, SOMETHING LIKE BEING QUEEN OF SOU!
Shake
I HEARD ABOUT IT. CONGRATULATIONS.
EH?

SO A MARRIAGE HAS BEEN DECIDED WITH PRINCE SOU?
GOOD NEWS MAKES EVERYONE HAPPY BECAUSE IT HASN'T APPEARED FOR A VERY LONG TIME.
WAR IS ANNOYING, AFTER ALL.
EH-?! WAIT...
IT'S GOOD THAT MY SON HAS RETURNED FROM THE BATTLE, BUT HE LOST AN ARM.
IF A WAR OCCURS AGAIN..
EVEN SO, IF SOU HELPS US, WE'LL BE ALL RIGHT!
MISS AKI, THANK YOU.
AH..

I...
SUCH A SELFISH THING?
IS WHAT I WANT
I DON'T KNOW.
THE PEOPLE ARE NATURALLY SELF-CENTERED, SO THEY ONLY THINK ABOUT THEIR SITUATION
THEY DON'T CARE ABOUT THE WORRIES OR PAIN OF AN UPPER-PERSON.
BUT IT'S ALSO THE ROYALTY'S JOB TO CONNECT THOSE SELF-CENTERED MINDS.

Crush
AND SILENCING THEM IS ALSO
A ROYAL'S JOB

Sigh
This guy...
BETWEEN THE EVENTS HERE, THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS "SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T HURT ANYBODY". YOU LACK THE ACKNOW-LEDGEMENT OF THAT FACT.
ALTHOUGH IT'S POSSIBLE THAT IT CANNOT BE HELPED, SINCE I HEARD THAT YOU WEREN'T TREATED AS PROPER ROYALTY IN AH.


AND YOU CAN'T EVEN HIDE BEHIND THOSE BLONDE WALLS.

WHAT.../ YOU WERE EAVES-DROPPING ...?!
THAT BARBARIAN AS WELL, WOULDN'T DARE TO SAY THAT HE'D RUN AWAY WITH YOU IF HE KNEW THE WEIGHT YOU CARRY.

AH... THEY SAY THAT THE TIGER APPEARS WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT HIM.

Ah
YOU INDEED DRAW ATTENTION
BUT DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT HE WENT TO SEITETSU?
HMM.
STAYING CLOSE TO A BARBARIAN LIKE THAT, SHE'S QUITE A BRAVE MAID
I'VE NEVER SEEN HER BEFORE SHE MAY BE NEW

ALTHOUGH HE'S A BARBARIAN, HE ISN'T BAD LOOKING
IS IT SO WEIRD THAT THERE'S A WOMAN APPROACHING HIM?
YOU TWO SHOULD LEARN
WHAT...?
SINCE THEY'RE ABLE TO TALK FREELY WITHOUT THEIR MASTER, THEY SHOULD FEEL COMFORTABLE AS WELL
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS? IT'S TIRING TO BE WITH AN UPPER-SOMEONE
HE SMI...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM SMILING...?

THAT IT'S GOOD TO STAY WITH SOMEONE OF YOUR STATUS
HAKUSEI!

I ALSO PREPARED A HERB WHICH IS SUPPOSED TO WORK GREAT AGAINST FATIGUE
I THOUGHT THAT I WAS ALWAYS BEING HARD ON YOU
YOU'RE BACK!
I REFILLED THE WATER TODAY
WHY IS SHE SUDDENLY SO HAPPY?
I'M SORRY—?
FOR ME?
smile
Woo...ow
This is scary for some reason...
Especially that black liquid

DRINK THE MEDICINE QUICKLY FIRST, AND THEN LET'S GO OUTSIDE AND HAVE FUN ONCE AGAIN!
WHAT? DRINK THIS?!
Dash
Dash
THANK YOU FOR THE FOOD~!
THIEVES~! HOW DARE THEY TOUCH HIS MAJESTY'S TABLE...

IS "HAVING FUN" STEALING FOOD FROM THE KITCHEN?!
WE USED TO DO IT A LOT LONG AGO IN THE AH PALACE.
THAT'S BECAUSE WE NEEDED TO AND HAD NO CHOICE...
He he he
QUEEN DO'S MEAL WAS ESPECIALLY DELICIOUS, SINCE THE TASTE OF VICTORY WAS ADDED...
WOW... WOULD IT BE OKAY FOR HER TO JUST ACT LIKE THIS AS A PRINCESS...
AND
I QUITE ENJOYED IT.
IF IT'S WITH YOU, ANY-THING

AH~
Haha
I WON'T BE ABLE TO GO NEAR THE KITCHEN FOR A WHILE
THERE ARE MANY HOT-HEADED PEOPLE AMONGST THE KITCHEN WORKERS
WHAT'S THAT, YOU SOUND LIKE SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN CAUGHT BEFORE
I HAVE BEEN CAUGHT BEFORE!
LATER, THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO ONLY CAME TO CATCH ME SINCE I WAS JUST A LITTLE SLAVE THERE WAS NO MERCY.
I..
DIDN'T KNOW...
I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE

IT'S ALL RIGHT
IT'S ALL RIGHT.

YOU CAN SEE THE BOROUGH REALLY WELL FROM HERE.
Just thought by myself that we knew everything about each other.
WHEN I WAS AT THE PALACE, WHAT DID YOU DO?
DID YOU MEET SOME PEOPLE AND HAVE FUN?
HAKU-SEI-
how much
I wonder

I ONLY FINISHED WHAT HE TOLD ME TO DO.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I TOLD YOU THAT I WAS GOING TO SEITETSU TODAY.
IF THERE WAS SOMEONE WHO HAD FUN WITH SEITETSU, WOULDN'T THAT PERSON BE A NEW SORT OF PERVERT?
I think that person would call a person like it was nothing
HAKUSE!... IF SEITETSU HEARD THIS, HE WOULDN'T JUST LET YOU BE.
I made you

I made you
lie all this time
PRI,
PRIN-
CESS?
Tsuyu
HAKUSEI...
DON'T LOOK
AT MY FACE.

IF I TOLD YOU THAT I'M GOING TO SOU,
WOULD YOU COME WITH ME?
IF YOU
WANT ME TO—.

I SEE..
You aren't trying to stop me

EVEN IF THE FORM CHANGES, WE ARE ALWAYS TOGETHER...
I'LL BE THERE SOON SO GO BACK FIRST.
I WANT TO BE ALONE FOR A BIT.
BUT YOU,
ARE ABLE TO SIMPLY LET GO OF MY HAND LIKE THAT—

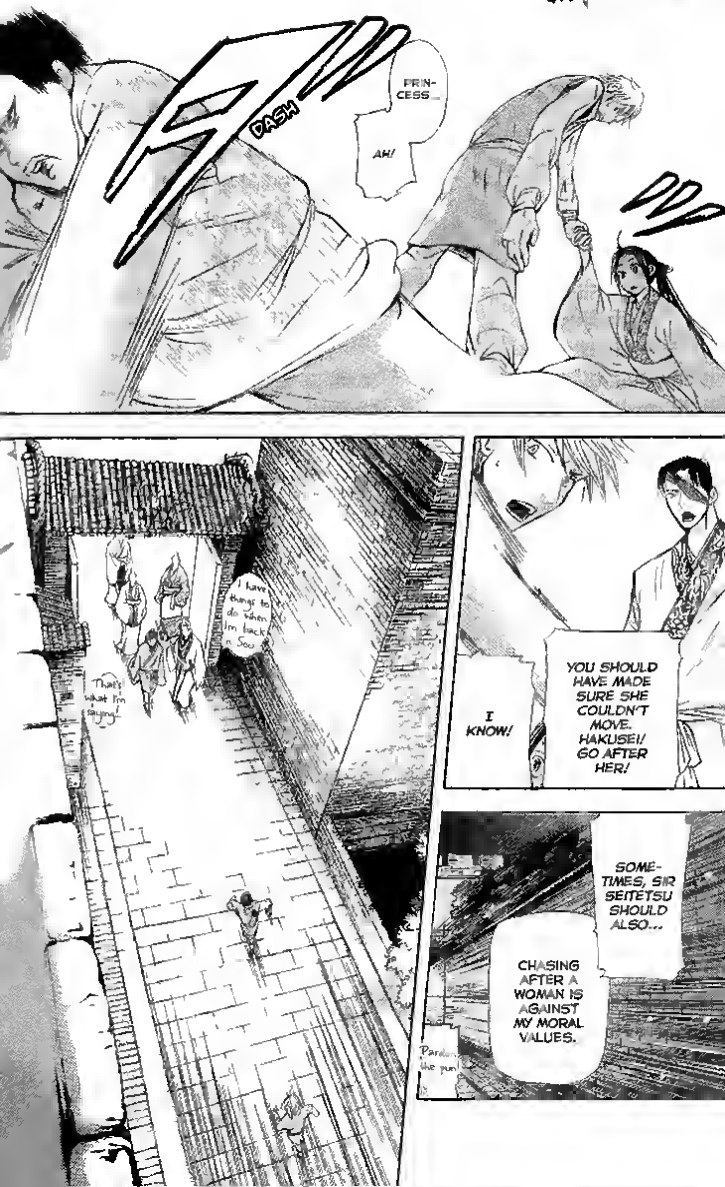
We were together way too much
Probably so much, that...
Dash
We had forgotten that we had different feelings
HAKUSE...

SHWAP
WHAT?!
Thud
!
SLIP

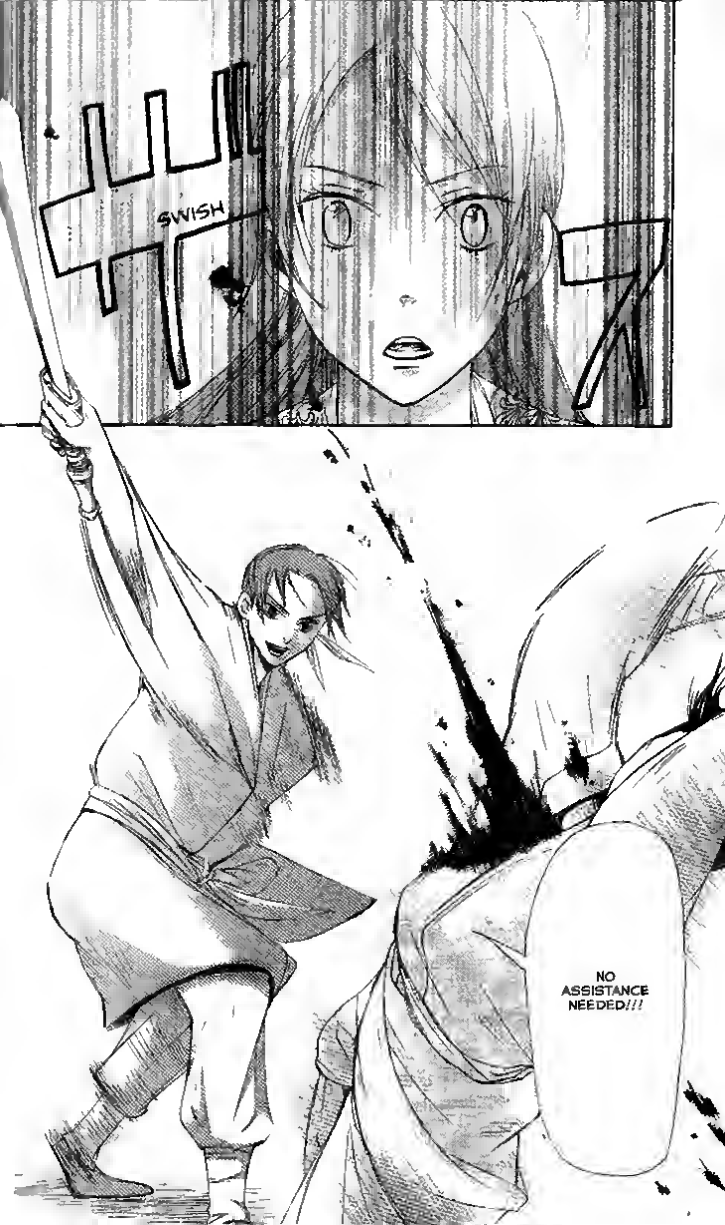
Who?!
GRAB
I THINK I'VE SEEN HER BEFORE...
Ah
HA...
HAKUSEI!!!

SPLAT
DROP
HERE I AM!
ARGH!
UGH!

Swoosh
DON'T KILL HER, HAKUSEI!
I EVEN RISKED LEAVING AKI ALONE TO CATCH HER.
WE SHOULD MAKE HER SPILL AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.
WHAT ON EARTH ...
IS HAPPENING...?


DASH
PRIN-
CESS...
AH!
I KNOW!
YOU SHOULD HAVE MADE SURE SHE COULDN'T MOVE. HAKUSEI! GO AFTER HER!
SOME-
TIMES, SIR SEITETSU SHOULD ALSO...
CHASING AFTER A WOMAN IS AGAINST MY MORAL VALUES.
Parallel run
I have things to do when I'm back in Soul.
That's what I'm saying!

MONKEY! RUN, QUICKLY..!
PEOPLE OF SOUL THINGS WILL BECOME COMPLICATED IF THE MESSENGERS GET HURT!
EH?
GET OUT OF THE WAY!
DASH!
HOW DARE YOU!
KEEP CALM, OLD MAN.


SWISH
NO ASSISTANCE NEEDED!!!

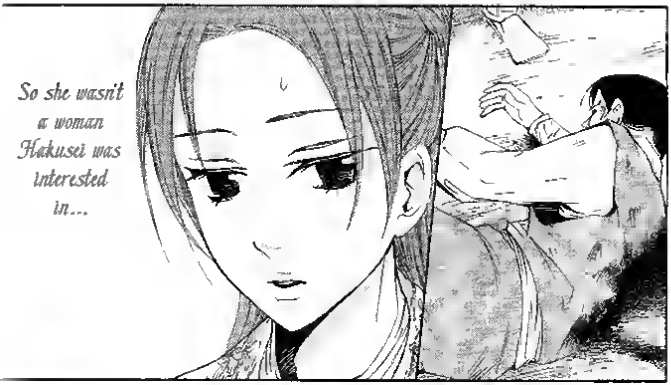
PRO-
BABLY.

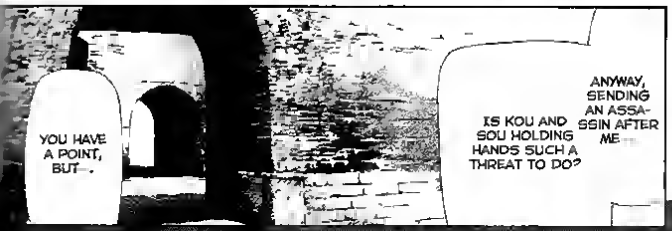
A SPY FROM DO?

I WAS WATCHING HER FROM THE START, THINKING SHE WAS SUSPICIOUS.
I THINK SHE HURRIED DEALING WITH AKI, AFTER SHE FOUND OUT ABOUT THE MARRIAGE ISSUE WITH PRINCE SOU.

MY... IT'S BECOME DIFFI-CULT.

SINCE SHE APPROACHED HAKUSEI SO UNNATURALLY AND ASKED ABOUT AKI'S AFFAIRS, I GAVE IT A CHANCE AND LURED HER.


So she wasn't a woman Hakusei was interested in...


ANYWAY, SENDING AN ASSASSIN AFTER ME...
IS KOU AND SOU HOLDING HANDS SUCH A THREAT TO DO?
YOU HAVE A POINT, BUT...

WELL, IT'S CERTAIN THAT YOU HAVE BECOME VALUABLE.
THE PREVIOUS WAR, AND THIS MARRIAGE ISSUE AS WELL. IN THE EYES OF DO, YOU'RE COMPLICATING A PLAN THAT IS GOING WELL.

IT'S PAINFUL, BEING SO POPULAR

I THINK THAT MORE ASSASSINS WILL COME IN THE FUTURE

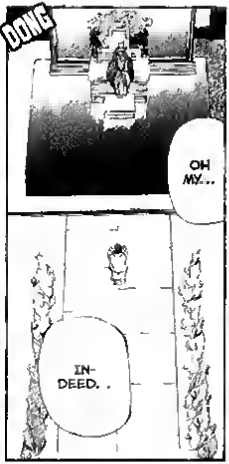
MISS AKI HAS YOUR HEART DECIDED?
AS YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN JUST NOW, SOU IS ALSO WELL TRAINED IN MARTIAL ARTS

I'LL PROTECT YOU.

PAT

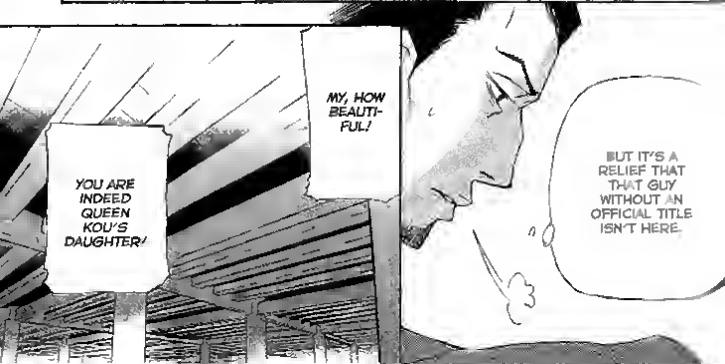
PRINCESS!
HAKU-SEI.
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE PROTECTING ME FROM ASSASSINS. THANK YOU
BUT THIS IS SOMETHING THAT I SHOULD DECIDE.
Dong
Dang
PRIN-CESS..

King Kou


DONG
OH MY...
IN-DEED. .

DONG

BUT I DON'T FEEL RIGHT PUTTING SUCH WEIGHT ON THE SHOULDERS OF A FIFTEEN YEAR OLD GIRL
Clamor
AN ALLIANCE WITH SOU IS A GOOD THING FOR US IN KOU,
Clamor


YOU ARE INDEED QUEEN KOU'S DAUGHTER!
MY, HOW BEAUTI-FUL!
BUT IT'S A RELIEF THAT THAT GUY WITHOUT AN OFFICIAL TITLE ISN'T HERE.

YOUR MAJESTY.
I'M SORRY TO BURDEN YOU WITH MY PROBLEM.

YOU HAVE MADE A GREAT DECISION!
CONGRATULATIONS.

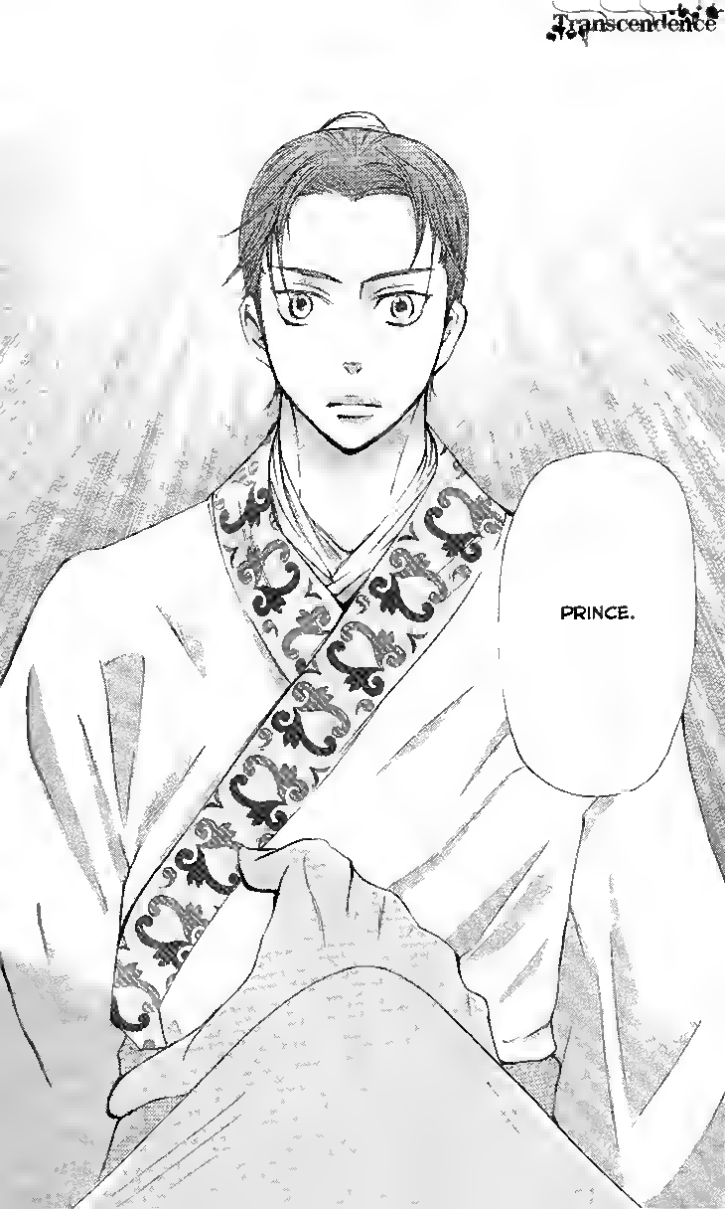
OH! SHE'S COMING THIS WAY
DON'T GET EXCITED, OLD MAN.

scratch scratch
IT'S THE VERY IMAGE OF A KIDNAPPER WITH A YOUNG GIRL

THEN,
OF COURSE!
REALLY?
OF COURSE!
THANK YOU. DO YOU THINK SO?
YOUR BEAUTY IS NEARLY TOO GOOD FOR THE NORTHERN BORDER OF SOU, MISS AKI!

I WON'T GO AFTER ALL, SINCE I'M TOO GOOD FOR THIS
Blurt
What kind of non-sense-!
Wha, wha, what!
How rude!
RUMOR
RUDE?!
Are you making fun of Soo?! Even if you're a princess, I cannot forgive this!
RUMOR

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S RUDE. IF YOU WANT ME, SOMEONE WHO YOU SAID IS 'TOO GOOD', THEN THE LEAST YOU CAN DO IS GREET ME PROPERLY.
TROT
TROT
Hah
clamor
clamor
THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE LIED EVEN IN THE PRESENCE OF OUR GRACIOUS EMPEROR IS THE IMPUDENCE OF ONE UNAFRAID EVEN OF THE HEAVENS!
I DON'T LIKE MEN WHO USE SLY TRICKS,

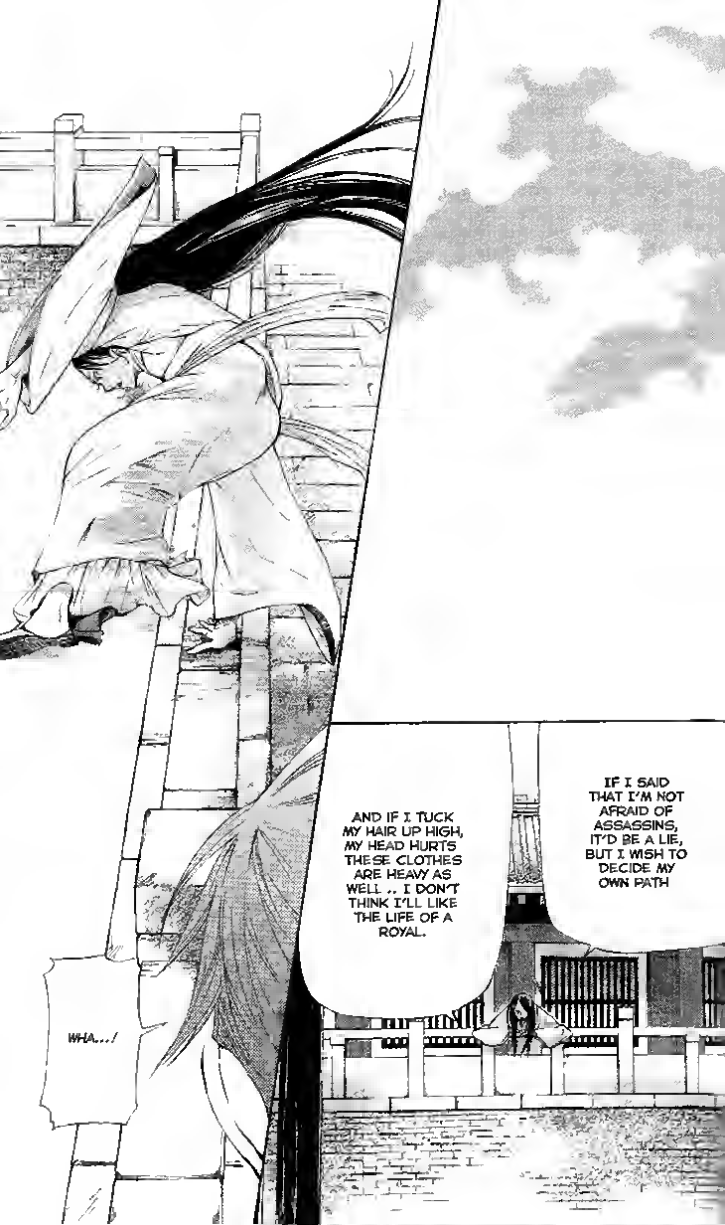

PRINCE.

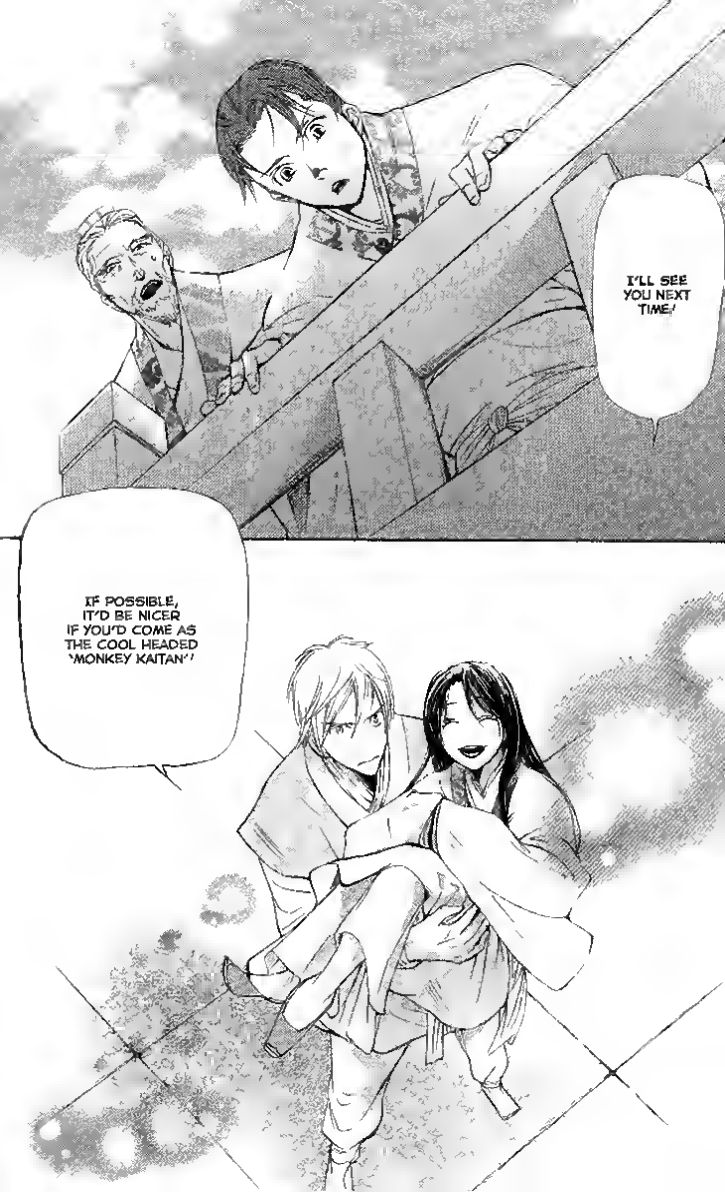
HOH
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? WHERE'S YOUR EVIDENCE?
MY EVIDENCE IS THAT CONFIDENCE.
AND WHEN THAT ASSASSIN ATTACKED YOU,
THE CHAMBERLAIN, WHO WAS ALSO WORKING AS AN ENVOY, PROTECTED YOU, EVEN WITHOUT DRAWING HIS SWORD, BY THROWING HIMSELF IN FRONT OF THE BLADE.
SOMEONE OF A NORMAL STATUS WOULDN'T EVEN BE ABLE TO THINK OF THAT.
PRINCE OF SOU ..?
THAT BOY IS ...?!
Clamor
Clamor
HEH.

HAHA-HAHA!
KING KOU, YOUR MAJESTY!
PRINCE!
Step
I THINK I SHOULD VISIT YOU AGAIN, PROPERLY.
I APOLOGIZE FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART ABOUT SHOWING YOU SO MUCH DISCOURTESY.
DO'S MOVEMENTS... IT SEEMS THAT THERE STILL IS SOMETHING LEFT.
EVEN IF I DON'T MARRY PRINCESS AKI, I STILL ASK FOR AN ALLIANCE WITH KOU.
I ALLOW IT.
clamor
clamor

I BEG YOUR PARDON.
A different person?
THAT BRILLIANCE, BEAUTY AND PRIDE, I LIKED IT!
I USUALLY PICK MY THINGS AFTER I'VE SEEN THEM WITH MY OWN EYES.
I PROPOSE AGAIN
I WOULD LIKE YOU AS MY OFFICIAL WIFE.
Doesn't that hurt?
YOUR REFUSAL WAS PRETTY QUICK.
I'LL GIVE YOU EVERY-THING AS THE FUTURE OFFICIAL WIFE OF KING SOU.
NO
IT'S BECAUSE YOU ARE STINGY.
STINGY...? I'LL GIVE YOU MONEY, THE COUNTRY, OR EVEN THE HEAVENS IF YOU WANT.
YOU'RE STINGY.
Ooooh

A WAY TO REFUSE ALL THAT AND RUN AWAY
YOU WON'T GIVE ME THAT, RIGHT?
LOOSEN
THAT ROAD WHICH YOU WON'T GIVE ME,
IS GIVEN TO ME BY A BARBARIAN WHO OWNS NOTHING


WHA.../
AND IF I TUCK MY HAIR UP HIGH, MY HEAD HURTS THESE CLOTHES ARE HEAVY AS WELL .. I DON'T THINK I'LL LIKE THE LIFE OF A ROYAL.
IF I SAID THAT I'M NOT AFRAID OF ASSASSINS, IT'D BE A LIE, BUT I WISH TO DECIDE MY OWN PATH


I'LL SEE YOU NEXT TIME.
IF POSSIBLE, IT'D BE NICER IF YOU'D COME AS THE COOL HEADED 'MONKEY KAITAN'!

SHE'S BECOMING MORE AND MORE DESIRABLE!
CAW
I APOLOGIZE!
LEAVE IT.
BUT I WILL SEND AN EXPERT...
I THINK THE SPY SENT TO KOU HAS BEEN DEALT WITH.
Ah, Capital

I WANTED TO GET RID OF HER QUICKLY IF POSSIBLE, BUT SHE'S A YOUNG GIRL ANYWAY
DON'T MIND IT.
Official Queen of Ah-Queen Do
Ah.
YES-! YOUR MAJESTY'S GREAT GENEROSITY FLATTERS...!
DIDN'T I SAY TO LEAVE IT? YOU DID WELL.
I'LL GIVE YOU THAT BEVERAGE OVER THERE. TAKE IT.
YES. YOU WON'T HAVE TO MIND IT.

SINCE YOU'LL DIE.
I won't forgive the foolishness of thinking that there will be an agaln in this anarchy
Pay for your sins with that poisoned drink
QUEEN KOU... THIS ROOM WHERE YOU DRANK THE POISON AND DIED IS NICE TO SHARE SECRETS IN SINCE NO ONE APPROACHES IT
I DON'T FEAR THINGS SUCH AS GHOSTS.
HMPH

I WATCH WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR ARROGANT DAUGHTER AND THIS COUNTRY FROM NOW ON.
JUST LIKE WHEN YOU WERE IN YOUR PLACE, YOU CANNOT DO ANYTHING.
SHT
IT HAPPENS...
IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE
PRIN-CESS!

YOU ARE SUCH A NAG.
I'm sleepy
YOU'RE THE ONE MAKING ME INTO A NAG! IF YOU'RE GOING
SLEEP!
a mom or something
THAT'S AN IMPORTANT TEXTBOOK! DON'T READ IT WHILE SLEEPING.
IT'S THE MOON ..

HAKU-SEI. .
YES?
THE DAY MY MOTHER PASSED AWAY, I SAID THAT YOU'LL ALWAYS BE INSIDE MY HANDS.
WE ARE DIFFERENT PEOPLE.
DOES
HAKUSEI... BUT NOW I KNOW
ALL THIS TIME, I EVEN THOUGHT WITH PRIDE THAT THIS WOULD BE ONLY NATURAL.
EVEN IF YOU DON'T LIVE JUST FOR ME. THERE ARE OTHER PATHS. AND OTHER PEOPLE.. AS WELL....
BUT... IT'S OKAY

But if that isn't what you desire deep inside my heart is going to break
I'd like you to laugh and ask what are you saying?
I wish you were here like this forever
WHAT'S THAT
Rather than be hated by you, I'll act as a generous owner...
ZZZ

It's hot
Heavy
Please move
BITE
OW ..!
Continued in Queen's Flowers 3

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Vol 02 Chap 04 Pt A
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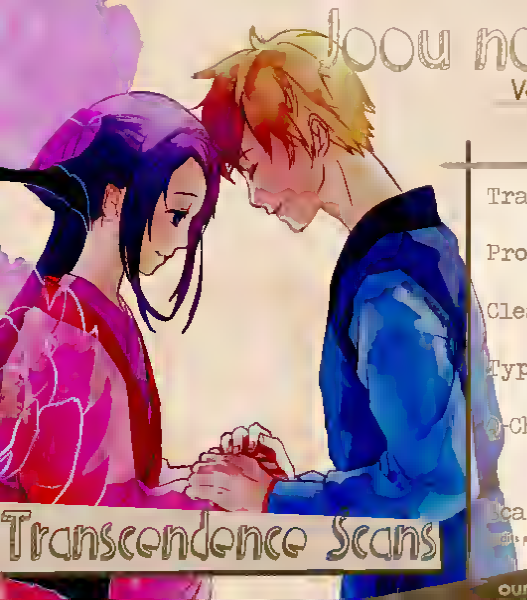

Joou no Hana

Vol 02 Chap 04 Pt C

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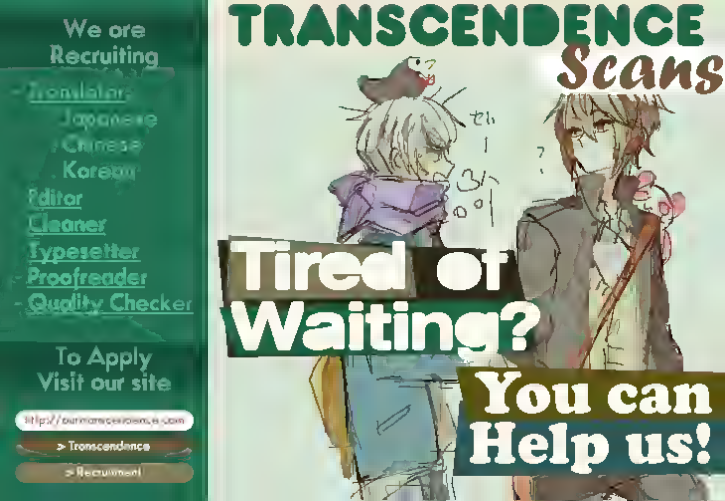
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